

Message Text

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 01831 01 OF 02 041634Z

46

ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02

H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /077 W

----- 012854

P R 041212Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2310

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL CASABLANCE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA

AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE

AMEMBASSY BANGUI

AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY LAGOS

CONSUL JOHANNESBURG 39

AMEMBASSY KINSHASA

AMEMBASSY LIBREVILLE

AMEMBASSY LOME

AMEMBASSY NAIROBI

AMEMBASSY NOUAKCHOTT

AMEMBASSY NDJAMENA

AMEMBASSY NIAMEY

AMEMBASSY OUAGADOUGOU

AMEMBASSY PRETORIA

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE SECTION 1 OF 2 ABIDJAN 1831/1

CASABLANCA FOR RCAA

BRUSSELS AND LAGOS FOR FAA

EO 11652: N/A

TAGS: EAIR, IV

SUBJECT: US CIVAIR BILATERALS WITH WEST AFRICAN COUNTRIES

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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 01831 01 OF 02 041634Z

REFS: A) STATE 037671 B) YAOUNDE 0332

1. EMBASSY ABIDJAN HAS NOT RECEIVED THROUGH DIPLOMATIC CHANNELS FORMAL REQUEST FOR CIVIL AIR CONSULTATIONS FROM GOIC. HOWEVER, PANAM DIRECTOR FOR WEST AND CENTRAL AFRICA, LOUIS BERMAN, HAS RECEIVED LETTER FROM MINISTER OF PUBLIC WORKS AND TRANSPORT SETTING FORTH GOIC OFFER OF AND CONDITIONS FOR ADDITIONAL PANAM FREQUENCY THROUGH ABIDJAN EFFECTIVE MAY 1, 1975 (SEE REFTEL). (LETTER BEING FORWARDED AF/W, ATTENTION RAMSAY).

2. MINISTER OF TRANSPORT'S LETTER STATES THAT:

A. ON CONDITION THAT DURING PERIOD MAY 1, 1975 TO APRIL 30, 1976 A BILATERAL AIR TRANSPORT AGREEMENT IS NEGOTIATED AND CONCLUDED BETWEEN USG AND GOIC, OPERATIONAL PERMIT FOR PANAM'S PRESENT WEEKLY FLIGHT NEW YORK TO LIBREVILLE VIA ABIDJAN IS EXTENDED FOR ONE YEAR, MAY 1, 1975 TO APRIL 30, 1976.

B. PANAM IS GRANTED A TEMPORARY AND REVOCABLE OPERATING PERMIT FOR A NEW FREQUENCY NEW YORK TO NAIROBI; VIA ABIDJAN FOR ONE YEAR BEGINNING MAY 1, 1975; HOWEVER, THIS PERMIT WILL BE AUTOMATICALLY WITHDRAWN ON APRIL 30, 1976 IF USG AND GOIC HAVE NOT CONCLUDED A BILATERAL.

C. IF DURING THE PROPOSED PERIOD THE NEW PANAM FREQUENCY RESULTS IN A DECLINE IN AIR AFRIQUE'S WEEKLY SERVICE BETWEEN US AND AFRICA, THE AUTHORIZATION ACCORDED WILL NOT BE RENEWED EVEN IF NEGOTIATIONS FOR A BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT HAVE BEGUN.

D. IF DURING THE PROPOSED PERIOD AIR AFRIQUE WANTS TO INTRODUCE AN ADDITIONAL WEEKLY FLIGHT WITH THE SAME ROUTING AS THAT OF AIR AFRIQUE'S PRESENT WEEKLY FLIGHT, USG AND PANAM WILL NOT OBJECT. (COMMENT. AIR AFRIQUE WILL ALSO PROBABLY REQUEST TRAFFIC RIGHTS FROM NEW YORK TO MONTREAL.)

E. IF PANAM DOES NOT AGREE IN WRITING WITHIN THREE MONTHS BEGINNING FEBRUARY 22, 1975 OR RESPONDS IN THE NEGATIVE, OFFER OF AN ADDITIONAL PANAM FREQUENCY THROUGH ABIDJAN WILL BE WITHDRAWN.

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PAGE 03 ABIDJA 01831 01 OF 02 041634Z

3. CONVERSATIONS WITH PANAM REPRESENTATIVE AND AIR AFRIQUE COMMERCIAL DIRECTOR, ROBERT DUGUE, YIELDED FOLLOWING INFORMATION:

A. GOIC AND AIR AFRIQUE INSISTENCE UPON NEGOTIATION OF BILATERAL AIR AGREEMENT APPEARS TO BE MATTER OF PRESTIGE AND PRINCIPLE. AIR AFRIQUE'S "PRIDE" WAS HURT DURING PREVIOUS NEGOTIATIONS FOR RENEWAL OF

ITS AIR CARRIER PERMIT, RAISING NATIONALIST HACKLES
AND ENGENDERING VIEW THAT BILATERAL WOULD PROVIDE
AIR AFRIQUE "RECOGNITION" NOT YET OBTAINED FROM
USG.

B. DUGUE RECOGNIZED THAT FOREIGN AIR CARRIER
PERMIT WOULD STILL BE REQUIRED (REFTEL A, PARA 3)
BUT POINTED OUT THAT IT WAS HIS UNDERSTANDING THAT IF
BILATERAL AGREEMENT WERE IN EFFECT, PERMIT NEED
ONLY BE RENEWED WHEN REOUTES WERE CHANGED.

C. AIR AFRIQUE MEMBER COUNTRIES ARE PUTTING HEAVY
PRESSURES ON AOUSSOU KOFFI, AIR AFRIQUE PRESIDENT/
DIRECTOR GENERAL, BECAUSE THEY BELIEVE AIR AFRIQUE
IS NOT GETTING ITS FAIR SHARE IN POOL ARRANGEMENT WITH
UTA. INDEED, ALL AGREEMENTS WITH FOREIGN CARRIERS
(UTA, AIR FRANCE, PANAM) ARE BEING RECONSIDERED
AND CHIEFS OF STATE AND MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT
WILL REPORTEDLY DISCUSS AIR TRANSPORTATION QUESTION
AT OCAM MEETING IN BANGUI.

4. DUGUE WAS INFORMED THAT MINISTERS OF TRANSPORT'S
LETTER TO PANAM DID NOT CONSTITUTE OFFICIAL REQUEST
TO ENTER INTO NEGOTIATIONS WITH USG. HE RECOGNIZED
THIS NOTING THAT HE ASSUMED MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
WOULD PURSUE APPROPRIATE COURSE, I.E., OBTAIN COUNCIL OF
MINISTERS' AND PRESIDENT'S APPROVAL TO UNDERTAKE NEGOTIATIONS.

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PAGE 01 ABIDJA 01831 02 OF 02 041656Z

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ACTION EB-07

INFO OCT-01 AF-06 EUR-12 NEA-09 ISO-00 CAB-02 CIAE-00

COME-00 DODE-00 DOTE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 FAA-00 L-02

H-01 SS-15 NSC-05 PA-01 USIA-06 PRS-01 SP-02 /077 W

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P R 041212Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY ABIDJAN

TO SECSTATE WASHDC PRIORITY 2311

INFO AMEMBASSY DAKAR

AMCONSUL CASABLANCE

AMEMBASSY ACCRA
AMEMBASSY YAOUNDE
AMEMBASSY BANGUI
AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS
AMEMBASSY COTONOU
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5. MR. BERMAN DISCUSSED WITH GOIC DIRECTOR OF TOURISM, MME TCHICAYA, PROPOSED INCREASE IN PANAM FREQUENCY. WHILE SHE AWARE THAT A NEW PANAM FLIGHT WAS UNDER CONSIDERATION, SHE WAS UNAWARE OF TERMS. WHEN INFORMED THEREOF BY MR. BERMAN, SHE INDICATED THAT MINISTER OF TOURISM WOULD LIKELY OPPOSE REGID POSITION TAKEN BY MINISTER OF TRANSPORT
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PAGE 02 ABIDJA 01831 02 OF 02 041656Z

AIR AFRIQUE AND SUGGESTED THAT PANAM SEEK TO OBTAIN MINISTER OF TOURISM'S SUPPORT. SHE STATED THAT MINISTRY OF TRANSPORT AND MINSITRY OF TOURISM CLASH FREQUENTLY BECUASE LATTER WANTS TO INCREASE AIR TRAFFIC TO IVORY COAST WHEREAS FORMER WANTS TO PROTECT AIR AFRIQUES' PROSITION IN AFRICAN MARKET.

6. MR. BERAMN IS FORWARDING MINSTER OF TRANSPORT'S LETTER TO PANAM NEW YORK FOR CONSIDERATION. EMBASSY WOULD APPRECIATE REPORT OF DISCUSSION BETWEEN APANAM AND DEPARTMENT OFFICIALS AND RESPONSE TO FOLLOWING QUESTIONS:
A. IF GOIC OFFICALLY REQUESTS CIVAIR NEGOTIATIONS, MUST USG ACQUIESCE?
B. WHAT IS USG PROCEDURE FOR APPROVING/DISAPPROVING REQUESTS FOR ADDITIONAL FREQUENCIES TO AND FROM US BY FOREIGN CARRIES?
C. WHAT BENEFITS WOULD GOIC OBTAIN UNDER BILATERAL WITH US AND WHICH GOIC DOES NOT ALREADY HAVE UNDER ITS ARRANGEMENT WITH PANAM?.
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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
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Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: NEGOTIATIONS, AVIATION AGREEMENTS, AIR ROUTE AGREEMENTS
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 04 MAR 1975
Decaption Date: 01 JAN 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: RELEASED
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Authority: MorefiRH
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
Disposition Date: 28 MAY 2004
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1975ABIDJA01831
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
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ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1975/newtext/t19750386/aaaaczrn.tel
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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